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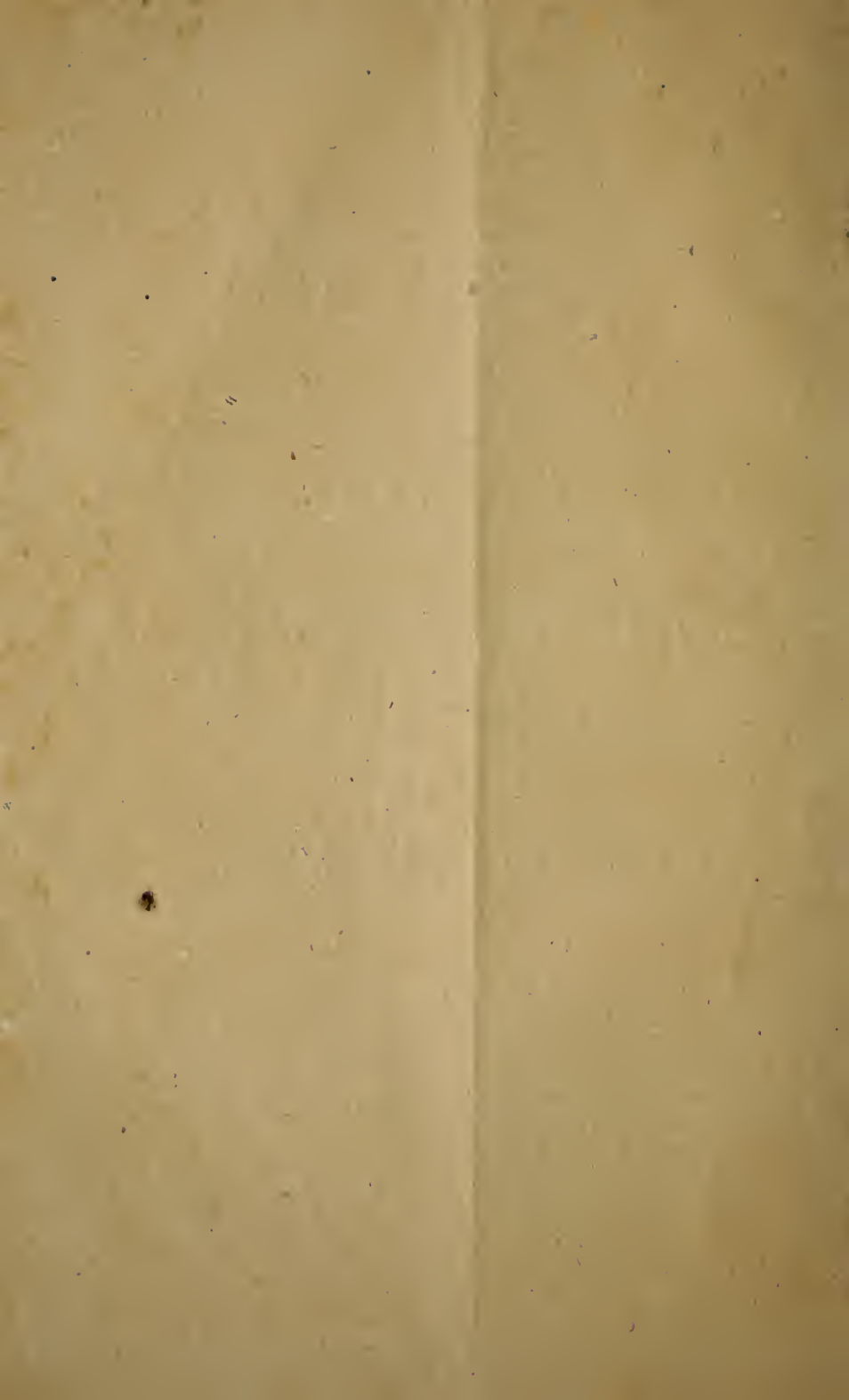
No. 984

Vol.

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My Books, to me, are like my friends,
Their presence to my pleasure tends,
And when away, I wait with pain,
Until I see them back again.

MINUTES
OF THE
SYNOD OF VIRGINIA,
AT THEIR SESSION IN
STAUNTON,
OCTOBER, 1862.
WITH AN APPENDIX.



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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD

1770-1771

THE HISTORY OF THE

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BY J. ADAMS

THE HISTORY OF THE

MINUTES.

The Synod of Virginia met according to adjournment, in the Presbyterian church of Staunton, on Wednesday, October 1st, 1862, at 7 o'clock P. M., when a sermon was preached by the Moderator, Rev. J. B. Ramsey, D. D., from Phil. 1: 21, "For to me to live is Christ."

After public worship, the Synod was called to order, and opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The Roll was made out, and the following Ministers and Elders were present during the session, viz:

Greenbrier Presbytery.

MINISTERS—S. R. Houston, J. Calvin Barr, R. P. Kennedy and H. B. Rose.

ELDERS—Thomas Matthews and James Montgomery, from Lewisburg church.

Lexington Presbytery.

MINISTERS—Francis McFarland, D. D., Wm. G. Campbell, N. W. Calhoun, Samuel Brown, Luther Emerson, Enoch Thomas, John Miller, Wm. Pinkerton, W. H. Raffner, D. C. Irwin, Wm. E. Baker, F. H. Bowman, Wm. T. Price, John Pinkerton, A. L. Hogshhead, E. D. Junkin, R. C. Walker, Wm. S. White, D. D., C. S. M. See, (2) P. M. Custer, (2) Wm. T. Richardson, (3) W. W. Trimble, (3) John S. Blain, (3) T. L. Preston, (4.)

ELDERS—John Merritt, from Bethel church; Wm. M. McCutchen, Lebanon; J. C. Hutton, Collier's Creek; Alex'r Taylor, Staunton; John E. Guthrie, Tinkling Spring; John Paris, Hebron; H. Barclay, Lexington; H. Bear, Union; Wm. Van Lear, Rockingham; Wm. Crawford, (2) Augusta church; Benj. B. Campbell, (2) Pisgah; Wm. Withrow, Waynesboro.

West Hanover Presbytery.

MINISTERS—Peyton Harrison, D. B. Ewing, J. D. Dudley, Charles Beach, Wm. J. Hoge, D. D., B. M. Smith, D. D., (3) J. Rice Bowman (2) Francis Bowman, D. D., and John H. Boccock, D. D.

ELDERS—C. C. Read, Farmville; Thos. E. Perkinson, Cumberland; L. R. Railey, Charlottesville; A. J. Bondurant, Maysville; Wm. Dinwiddie, Lebanon.

*The figure following a name indicates the day of the Session on which the member took his seat.

East Hanover Presbytery.

MINISTERS—T. V. Moore, D. D., M. D. Hoge, D. D., (3) A. W. Miller, Wm. Brown, D. D., (3) B. T. Lacy, R. McIlwaine, G. W. White.

ELDERS—P. P. Batte, 1st church Petersburg; R. H. Lester, 2d church, Petersburg; N. C. Read, 2d church, Richmond.

Roanoke Presbytery.

MINISTERS—J. B. Ramsey, D. D., A. Martin, W. H. Mathews, P. T. Penick, H. C. Alexander, T. W. White, T. Wharey, (2.)

ELDERS—H. T. Richardson, Briery; Sam'l McCorkle, 1st church, Lynchburg; L. Moore, Olivet; J. D. Spraggin, Rough Creek.

Montgomery Presbytery.

MINISTERS—J. M. Rice, J. S. Grasty, G. Goble, A. Hart.

ELDERS—T. M. Wiley, Falling Spring; J. B. I. Logan, Salem; E. Phleger, Christiansburg.

Winchester Presbytery.

MINISTERS—W. H. Foote, D. D. and M. W. Woodworth, (4.)

ELDERS—None.

MEMBERS ABSENT.

Greenbrier Presbytery.

John McElhenny, D. D., M. D. Dunlap, R. Osborn, J. H. Leps, M. H. Bittenger, J. C. Brown and Wm. C. Neely.

Lexington Presbytery.

James Morrison, Reuben Lewis, John F. Baker, J. K. Harris and Thomas Hempstead.

West Hanover Presbytery.

Michael Osborne, J. S. Armistead, D. D., Wm. H. McGuffey, D. D., Wm. S. Thompson, J. H. Fitzgerald, R. L. Dabney, D. D., S. W. Watkins, J. M. P. Atkinson, D. D., B. M. Wailes and L. Vass.

East Hanover Presbytery.

Theodoric Pryor, D. D., G. D. Armstrong, D. D., Edward Martin, Robert J. Taylor, S. W. Blain, Sam'l W. Blain, A. W. Wright, Wm.-A. Campbell, James Murray and H. H. Hawes.

Montgomery Presbytery.

J. D. Ewing, U. Powers, J. H. Wallace, R. C. Graham, W. P. Hickman, Thos. Brown, J. M. Humphreys, C. A. Miller, Wm. F. Junkin, S. D. Stuart, James Greer, H. M. White, A. B. Carrington and L. H. Blanton.

Roanoke Presbytery.

S. B. Wilson, D. D., H. Lee, M. W. Jackson, I. Cochran, R. N. Anderson, S. J. Rice, J. G. Shepperson, S. D. Rice, C. R. Vaughan, J. A. Scott, H. Snyder, Thos. E. Peck, W. B. Tidball, H. A. Brown, B. W. Moseley, John A. Moore and John H. Davis.

Winchester Presbytery.

[The Stated Clerk of the Synod has no Roll of this Presbytery.]

Rev. Wm. J. Hoge was elected Moderator, and Rev. J. D. Dudley and D. C. Irwin Clerks.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, *October 2d*—9 o'clock.

Synod met and was opened with prayer.

On motion of Dr. McFarland, Synod spent half an hour in devotional services, under the direction of the Moderator.

At the close of these services it was—

Resolved, That Synod will meet every morning at 9 o'clock, spend half an hour in devotional services; take recess at 11 o'clock for public worship; meet at 3½ o'clock P. M., and adjourn at will.

The Roll was called.

The following brethren being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members:

Rev. Wm. W. Morrison, of the Synod of Alabama.

Rev. J. H. Boccock, D. D., of the Synod of Baltimore.

Rev. Francis Bowman, D. D., of the Synod of Georgia.

Rev. B. T. Lacy, of the Synod of Kentucky.

Rev. J. S. Watt, of the Synod of Missouri.

Rev. J. N. Anderson, of the Synod of South Carolina.

Also Rev. Messrs. Gilbert and Davis, of the Evangelical Lutheran church.

The following members were excused for non-attendance at the present meeting, for reasons rendered, viz:

Rev. Messrs. James Morrison, Wm. H. McGuffey, D. D., G. D. Armstrong, D. D., H. M. White, L. H. Blanton, U. Powers, C. R. Vaughan, B. W. Moseley, T. Pryor, D. D., and J. S. Armistead, D. D.

The minutes of the session of yesterday evening were read and approved.

The Stated Clerk presented the report of the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Seminary.

The Synod proceeded to appoint the time and place for its next meeting, and the town of Salem was chosen as the place, and the third Wednesday in October, 1863, at 7 o'clock P. M., as the time.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees :

On Leave of Absence—Rev. Richard McIlwaine and G. W. White and Elder P. P. Batte.

On Bills and Overtures—Rev. J. B. Ramsey, D. D., William S. White, D. D., and S. R. Houston, with Elders C. C. Read and E. Phleger.

On Union Theological Seminary—Rev. Wm. H. Ruffner, Francis McFarland, D. D., and D. B. Ewing ; Elders S. McCorkle and J. B. J. Logan.

On the Narrative—Rev. H. C. Alexander and Luther Emerson, and Elder J. D. Spraggins.

Judicial Committee—Rev. T. V. Moore, D. D., John Miller, Chas. Beach, and Elders T. E. Perkinson and J. C. Hutton.

On Devotional Services—Rev. Wm. E. Baker and Elder Alexander Taylor.

It was resolved that the Committee of Bills and Overtures be required to report on the propriety of appointing a stated time for the regular meetings of Synod.

On motion, Rev. John Miller and H. C. Alexander, and Elder R. F. Lester were appointed a committee to report a minute on the general subject of the interruption of worship in our churches.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Theological Seminary be instructed to inquire as to the number of Theological students now in the army, and write to them a letter of sympathy and support.

Resolved, That a Committee from Lexington Presbytery be appointed to prepare a Minute in reference to the death of Rev. Henry Ruffner, D. D.

Resolved, That a Committee from each Presbytery be appointed to prepare Minutes with reference to the deaths of the members of their respective Presbyteries during the past year.

The Committee on the Narrative were requested to notice in the Narrative the death of those Theological Students who have died during the past year.

The Moderator appointed the following committee from Lexington Presbytery, on the death of Rev. Dr. Ruffner, viz:

Rev. Francis McFarland, D. D., Wm. S. White, D. D., and Elder Hugh Barclay.

Also, the following committees to review Presbyterial Records: To review the Records of—

Greenbrier Presbytery—Rev. A. L. Hogshead, Wm. H. Matthews and Elder L. Moore.

Of Lexington Presbytery—Rev. J. Calvin Barr, G. Goble and Elder F. M. Wylie.

Of West Hanover Presbytery—Rev. P. T. Penick, R. C. Walker and J. E. Guthrie.

Of East Hanover Presbytery—Rev. E. D. Junkin, T. W. White and A. J. Bondurant.

Of Montgomery Presbytery—Rev. S. Brown, R. P. Kennedy and H. Barclay.

Of Roanoke Presbytery—Rev. Wm. G. Campbell, E. Thomas and Wm. M. McCutchan.

Of Winchester Presbytery—Rev. F. H. Bowman, Wm. Pinkerton and J. Montgomery.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon to receive Presbyterial Records.

And it was made the second order for the afternoon to receive Statistical Reports of Presbyteries, and Narratives of the state of Religion.

And the third order to hear reports from Presbyteries on evangelistic labor.

The fourth order to hear reports from Presbyteries on systematic benevolence.

The following members appeared and gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness :

Rev. J. R. Bowman, Rev. C. S. M. See, and Elder Wm. Crawford.

Synod took a recess till 3½ o'clock P. M.

After recess Synod met.

The first order of the day was taken up, and the Records of the Presbyteries of Lexington, West Hanover and Montgomery were received and placed in the hands of the committee.

The second order was taken up, and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, West Hanover, Montgomery and Roanoke were received and read, and are as follows, viz :

The Presbytery of Greenbrier report to the Synod that they consist of 12 Ministers, and have under their care 23 churches, and 3 Licenciates.

On the 19th of April, 1862, they licensed James Haynes, and on the 22d of September, 1862, Brice B. Blair, as probationers for the ministry.

Died, Dec. 17th, 1861, Rev. Henry Ruffner, D. D.

Died, June 8th, 1862, Rev. James M. Brown, D. D.

Died, August —, 1862, Rev. David H. Cunningham.

Died, May 15th, 1862, James Brown, a candidate for the ministry.

By order of Presbytery,

J. C. BARR, S. C.

Lexington Presbytery report to the Synod of Virginia that they consist of 30 Ministers, and have under them 38 churches, 2 Licenciates, and 1 candidate.

Ministers Received—Nov. 8th, Rev. F. H. Bowman, from the Presbytery of Tuscaloosa, and Rev. P. M. Custer, from the Presbytery of Greenbrier.

April 17th, Rev. Reuben Lewis, from the Presbytery of Montgomery, and Sept. 5th, Rev. N. W. Calhoun, from the Presbytery of St. Louis.

Pastoral Relation Dissolved—Feb. 20th, 1862, between Rev. Samuel Brown and Windy Cove church.

Installed—Nov. 8th, Rev. Francis H. Bowman, pastor of Augusta church. Nov. 9th, Rev. Philander M. Custer, pastor of Mount Horeb church, and May 17th, Rev. Thomas L. Preston, pastor of Hebron church, and May 10th Rev. Samuel Brown, pastor of New Monmouth church.

Ordained—May 10th, Rev. John M. Goul, as an evangelist.

Licensed—March 21st, Mr. J. H. Gilmore.

Died, August 9th, Rev. John M. Goul.

The Presbytery has also lost, by death, three candidates during the year.

By order of Presbytery,

Sept. 18th, 1862.

SAM'L BROWN, *Stated Clerk*.

The Presbytery of West Hanover report to the Synod of Virginia that they consist of 10 Ministers, and have under their care 21 churches, 6 Licentiates, and 1 candidate.

On the 23d day of April last they dismissed Rev. S. S. Murkland to the Presbytery of Concord, on the same day they dismissed John M. Goul, a Licentiate, to put himself under the care of Lexington Presbytery.

On the 25th of the same month they received Rev. Wm. J. Hoge, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, on examination, without a dismission, for reasons stated on their Minutes.

On the 25th of the same month they licensed Thomas W. Gilmer, George H. Gilmer, Charles James Armistead, H. P. R. McCoy and James M. Wharey to preach the Gospel.

On the 26th of Aug., they received under their care Park Poindexter Flournoy as a candidate for the Gospel Ministry.

By order of Presbytery,

Aug. 30th, 1862.

J. S. ARMISTEAD, *Stated Clerk*.

Montgomery Presbytery report to Synod that they consist of 18 Ministers, and have under their care 3 Licentiates and 5 candidates.

That on the 7th day of Nov., 1861, the pastoral relation between the Rev. J. F. Lanneau and the church of Salem was dissolved, and Mr. Lanneau was dismissed to the Presbytery of Cherokee.

That on the 11th of January, 1862, the pastoral relation was dissolved between the Rev. J. S. Grasty and the church of Mountain Union; that on the 12th of April Rev. L. H. Blanton was received from the Presbytery of West Lexington, and on the second Saturday in May installed pastor of the church of Salem.

That Rev. H. M. White was installed pastor of Mountain Union church on the second Saturday in June.

And that since the last report the Rev. W. W. Stickley departed this life.

L. H. BLANTON, *M'r*.

W. F. JUNKIN.

The Presbytery of Roanoke report to the Synod of Virginia that they consist of 24 Ministers, and have under their care 27 churches, 1 Licentiate, and three candidates.

That on the 25th day of April, 1862, they licensed Mr. William S. Lacy to preach the Gospel.

That on the day following they received under their care Mr. Thomas W. White, a Licentiate from the Presbytery of East Hanover.

That on the 31st day of May, they lost by death, at the battle of Seven Pines, Mr. Edgar Wirt Carrington, a candidate for the ministry.

That on the 11th day of July they ordained Mr. Thomas Ward White, and installed him pastor of Ebenezer church.

That on the 29th day of August they received Rev. John H. Davis from

the Presbytery of East Hanover, and on the same day they took under their care Mr. Tazewell M. McCorkle, of the 1st Presbyterian church of Lynchburg, as a candidate for the Ministry: that on the 3d day of September they installed Rev. John H. Davis Pastor of Bethlehem church; and on the 20th day of the same month installed Mr. Davis Pastor also of Concord church.

By order of the Presbytery,

SAM'L J. PRICE, *Stated Clerk.*

Sept. 26th, 1862.

THE PRESBYTERY OF EAST HANOVER report to the Synod that they consist of 17 Ministers, and have under their care 17 churches and one candidate. On the 17th day of April, 1862 they dismissed the Rev. John H. Davis to unite with, and Mr. Thos. Ward White, a Licentiate, to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Roanoke. On the same day they ordained Mr. Herbert H. Hawes to the full work of the Ministry, and on the 23d of August installed him pastor of Hebron church. On the 3d day of October they received the Rev. Beverly T. Lacey, a member of the Presbytery of West Lexington. On the 15th day of February Rev. Dabney Carr Harrison died of wounds received at Fort Donaldson: and on the 9th day of June Rev. Wm. Lyon departed this life.

Oct. 2, 1862.

WILLIAM BROWN, *Stated Clerk pro tem.*

The Narratives on the State of Religion from Greenbrier, Montgomery and Roanoke Presbyteries were read, and put into the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

Rev. Thomas Wharey, P. M. Custer, H. B. Rose and Elder B. B. Campbell, from Pisgah church, Lexington Presbytery, appeared and gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness.

The third order of the day was taken up, and the Presbyteries of Lexington and Roanoke reported on the subject of Evangelistic labor. From these reports it appears that these Presbyteries manage the subject through their Committees of Domestic Missions; that they are endeavoring to aid feeble churches, plant new ones, and to aid in supplying the army hospitals with Chaplains. In this latter work the Presbytery of Roanoke has shown commendable zeal.

The fourth order was taken up, and a report on Systematic Benevolence was received from the Presbytery of West Hanover alone. From this report it appears that the subject has been attended to by this Presbytery.

Resolved, That it be enjoined on the Presbyteries to send up their reports on Systematic Benevolence.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees to prepare suitable Minutes in regard to the death of Ministers in their respective Presbyteries during the last year:

Lexington Presbytery.—Rev. C. S. M. See and F. H. Bowman, Elder J. C. Hutton.

East Hanover Presbytery.—Rev. T. V. Moore, D. D. and G. W. White, Elder R. F. Lester.

Montgomery Presbytery.—Rev. A. Hart, J. S. Grasty and Elder E. Phleger.

Greenbrier Presbytery.—Rev. S. R. Houston, J. C. Barr, Elder Thos. Matthews.

The Committee appointed on the subject of the interruption of worship in the churches, reported.

The Moderator appointed the Rev. W. H. Foote, D. D. and Elder P. P. Batte a Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, Oct. 3d, 9 o'clock.

Synod met and was opened with prayer, and half an hour was spent in devotional services.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. Francis Bowman, D. D. and Rev. J. H. Boccock, D. D. having been received as members of West Hanover Presbytery were enrolled and took their seats as members of Synod.

Rev. Messrs. B. M. Smith, D. D., Wm. Brown, D. D., M. D. Hoge, D. D., and Wm. T. Richardson, appeared and gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness.

Rev. R. L. Dabney, D. D. and Rev. John Moore were excused for absence from the present meeting, on reasons presented on their behalf.

A paper was presented by Rev. Wm. S. White, D. D. in reference to the duties of the church to the Hospitals and the Army, which was discussed at some length. Pending the discussion, Rev. Dr. McFarland, at the call of the Moderator, led the Synod in prayer, with reference to this subject.

On motion, the paper, and the whole subject of the duty of the church to the Hospitals and the Army, was referred to a Committee consisting of Rev. J. H. Boccock, D. D., R. Mellwaine, M. D. Hoge, D. D., John Miller, Wm. Brown, D. D., and Elders H. Barclay and J. B. I. Logan.

Synod took a recess till 3½ o'clock, P. M.

After recess Synod met.

The Committee appointed to review the Presbyterian Records of East Hanover, Roanoke and Greenbrier reported that the Records had not been put into their hands, and were discharged.

The Committee on the Records of West Hanover and Lexington Presbyteries reported, recommending their approval as far as written. The reports were adopted.

The Committee on the Records of Montgomery Presbytery reported, and their report was laid on the table.

The following Resolutions were offered and adopted, viz :

Resolved, That this Synod hereby bear their solemn testimony against the growing neglect and disuse of singing as a part of family worship, as being

a departure from the hallowed custom of our fathers, as well as from the teachings of the Bible, and the standards of our own church.

Resolved, That we affectionately commend to all our people this important matter; and would kindly invite all our Pastors and Sessions, (while they attend to the keeping up of family worship among the families of their respective charges) not to neglect, but pay special attention to this as an important part of the worship of God in the families, as well as in the public congregation.

The Rev. B. T. Lacy, having been received as a member of East Hanover Presbytery, was enrolled and took his seat as a member of Synod.

The Presbytery of East Hanover presented their report on Evangelistic labor, from which it appears that they conduct this business as the other Presbyteries, through their Committee of Domestic Missions. They had endeavored to obtain a travelling Evangelist, but had failed. They have had four Missionaries in their service during the past year, one of whom had been laboring mostly in the army. The Presbytery also reported that in consequence of the detention within the enemies lines of their Stated Clerk, and the absence of the Records of the Presbytery, they can make no detailed report on Systematic Benevolence.

The Presbyteries of Lexington and East Hanover presented their Narratives of the State of Religion, which were referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The Rev. W. W. Trimble and Rev. John S. Blain, appeared and gave satisfactory reasons for not attending earlier.

The Committee of Greenbrier Presbytery, appointed to prepare Minutes in reference to the death of members of Synod within their bounds, made the following Reports, which were adopted:

The Committee appointed to prepare a Minute expressive of the feelings of this Synod in reference to the death of Rev. James M. Brown, D. D., would respectfully submit the following, viz:

Our departed fellow servant in the ministry of Christ was born in Rockbridge county. He prosecuted his theological studies under the direction of Rev Geo. A. Baxter, D. D., and was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Lexington. He commenced his labors as a Pastor in Berkeley county, in the year 1824. After the lapse of ten years he became an Agent of the Board of Domestic Missions, in which service he continued two years, laboring in the States of Virginia and North Carolina. In the year 1836 he was installed the Pastor of the church of Charleston, in the Kanawha Valley, where he served his Master until his death, which occurred on Sabbath morning, June 8th, 1862. During this latter period he had, for some time, the charge of a Female Seminary, and at the same time performed frequent and toilsome Missionary tours through the extensive region of Western Virginia.

He was eminent for his zeal and conscientious fidelity in every branch of his diversified labors. As a Pastor he was particularly distinguished. His preaching was simple, logical and deeply impressive. In public prayer he seemed to stand hard by the throne and hold intimate communion with the God of grace and mercy. His people honored and loved him much. For

more than a year previous to his death his church enjoyed an unceasing refreshing from on high. In the last day many, doubtless, will rise up and call him blessed. His death is much lamented by this Synod. His intimate acquaintance with ecclesiastical matters, and his ardent desire to further the general interests of the church, together with his extraordinary practical wisdom, caused him to be a most judicious counsellor, and a truly safe guide. He passed through deep waters before he arrived at the Jordan of death. A beloved daughter, and a much loved son, sickened and died but a short period before he himself was called away. He bore his afflictions without a murmur. Every word that fell from his lips indicated a heart perfectly resigned and sweetly submissive. His end was more than peaceful. His death was triumphant.

As a Synod we profoundly condole with his thrice stricken widow and only surviving son. May that precious Gospel, which was so full of peace to him, be their consolation and joy.

Also in reference to the death of the Rev. David H. Cunningham. He was a native of Rockingham county, received his Theological education at Union Seminary, and was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Lexington in the year 1834.

During his life he labored in many different fields with much zeal, and a good degree of success. He evidently loved the service of his Lord and Master Jesus Christ, but in consequence of continued feeble health, and other circumstances, the latter part of his life was one of much suffering and but little efficiency in the ministry. Many and sore were his afflictions, but the Lord, we trust, has delivered him out of them all. Through much tribulation he has entered into the kingdom of heaven.

The Synod would hereby express their sincere sympathy for his numerous orphan children, now bereaved of both their parents, and would earnestly commend them to the grace and protecting kindness of their father's God.

SAE'L R. HOUSTON, }
JOHN C. BARR, } *Committee.*
THOS. MATTHEWS, }

Oct. 3, 1862.

The Committee of East Hanover Presbytery made the following reports, which were adopted :

The Committee appointed to bring in a Minute in regard to the deaths in East Hanover Presbytery, report the following :

Rev. Dabney Carr Harrison, son of Rev. Peyton and Jane Carr Harrison, was born in the county of Albemarle, Va., Sept. 12th, 1830. After the usual preliminary education, he graduated at Princeton College, N. J., at the age of 18, and studied law. Soon after entering on the practice of his profession, he was led to consecrate himself to Christ, and immediately began the study of Theology. After the usual course at Union Seminary, he was called to give instruction in Hebrew in the Seminary for two years, owing to the lamented death of Prof. Sampson. After which he accepted the Chaplaincy of the University of Virginia, and was ordained by the West Hanover Presbytery in April, 1857. Having filled this post with great acceptance, he took charge of the Bethlehem church in Hanover county, and performed a great deal of Missionary labor, especially among the servants. After the death of his brother, Peyton R. Harrison, and other relatives, in the battle of Manassas,

he felt it to be his duty to enter the army, and raised a company in Hanover county, of which he took as much the spiritual as the military charge, laboring in various ways for the good of their souls. This company was ordered to the West, and it fell to their lot to participate in the terrible struggle of Fort Donelson. He was with them in all their sufferings, and although too unwell to be fit for duty, he rose from his sick bed to share with them the exposures of the impending battle. It had been his custom to assemble his company regularly for morning and evening prayers, and this custom even the progress of that protracted battle did not cause him to intermit. On Thursday morning, the second day of that bloody and unequal struggle, where, amid drenching rain and freezing sleet and chilling snow, that gallant band of heroes struggled so bravely against overwhelming odds for five days, he gathered his men in the trenches, where they had been working all the night before, to begin the day with prayer. Many others gathered around him, and in the dim light of a setting moon and a dawning day, he repeated with thrilling effect to these weary and suffering men the sublime words of that grand old war song of the Hebrew hero, the 27th Psalm, and many a heart grew stronger, as his manly voice exclaimed, "the Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid? Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear! Though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident!" And though many an eye swam, and many a choking thought of loved ones far away came up, at the word, "When my father and mother forsake me;" yet the tear was checked as he added, "then the Lord will take me up." And that prayer in the freezing trenches, in the dim dawn of that wintry morning, will long be remembered by many a brave heart. On Saturday morning, Feb. 15th, 1862, as he was leading his company in a daring charge, and cheering them on, he fell, pierced by a mortal wound, and after lying for some time on the battle field, was carried off by his brave men, to be removed to Nashville. As he was borne along on a litter, he remarked to a passing friend, "it is all right, I am perfectly willing to die." During the next day, which was the Sabbath, he called for a note-book, and with a hand thus growing feeble in death, as the following characters touchingly indicate, wrote: "I die content and happy, trusting in the merits of my Saviour Jesus, committing my wife and children to their Father and mine," and signed his name. Sinking into sleep, he suddenly started up, a few moments before his death, and exclaimed, as if his thoughts were wandering back to the battle field and his beloved men, "Company K, you have no captain now, but never give up! never surrender!" Sinking back on his pillow, he sweetly and quietly fell asleep, and on the rest of that holy day, which he loved so well, passed from the Sabbath on earth to the eternal Sabbath in heaven. He sleeps far from the graves of his kindred, but his gentle loveliness, his fervent piety, his chivalrous courage, his ripe scholarship, his inflexible firmness in duty, and that rare and beautiful combination of almost opposite qualities that made him at once a "son of consolation," and a "son of thunder," will embalm his memory in an undying affection in the hearts of those who will long mourn that a sacrifice so rich and precious should have been yielded on the blood stained altar of our country's liberty.

Rev. William Lyon was a native of Carlisle, Pa., pursued his academic course in Dickinson College, and studied Theology privately. Removing to Virginia about the year 1844, he took charge of the Bethlehem church, Hanover county, where he labored for four or five years, when failing health compelled him to teach for a few years. After which he took charge of the

Amelia church, in East Hanover Presbytery. He was called about ten years ago to the general agency of the Virginia Bible Society in Eastern Virginia, in which work he labored faithfully, until he sunk under protracted ill health last June, and ended his earthly career about the age of forty. He was an humble, retiring and pious man, blameless and holy in all his walk and conversation, laboring with uncomplaining fidelity amidst peculiar discouragements, and his latter end was peace.

The Committee of Montgomery Presbytery reported the following, which was adopted:

REV. W. W. STICKLEY.

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to remove from us by death the Rev. W. W. Stickley; therefore,

Resolved, That we bow in humble submission to the divine will as expressed in that event, and adore that sovereignty which we cannot comprehend.

As a Synod we record his death with sincere sorrow, feeling that we have lost a valuable member of this body, and a highly esteemed brother in Christ.

We deeply sympathise with the people of his recent charge, believing that they have lost an earnest, affectionate and faithful preacher—a laborious and devoted Pastor, and one who was very successful among them as well in comforting, guiding and instructing the people of God, as in winning souls to the Redeemer.

We also tender our warmest sympathies to his deeply afflicted wife and children, and commend them to the love and kindness of our Heavenly Father.

The end of our beloved brother was peace, and we hope that his rest will be glorious.

The Committee from Lexington Presbytery, appointed to prepare a Minute with reference to the death of Rev. Henry Ruffner, D. D., reported the following, which was adopted:

The Synod would put on record in their Minutes the mournful fact that on the 17th day of December, 1861, in the 71st year of his age, that honored and beloved member of the Synod, Henry Ruffner, D. D. L. L. D., ceased his ministry in the church below, but we rejoice to believe that on the same day he commenced his ministry before the throne of God and the Lamb.

He possessed a very vigorous and well furnished mind. His literary and scientific attainments were large, varied and accurate, and he was a sound theologian. His love of learning was so intense, that by his close application to study he no doubt impaired a constitution naturally strong.

His eminent qualifications pointed him out as a man well suited for the instruction of youth in the higher walks of learning, and as Professor and President of Washington College, he rendered, for many years, valuable service both to the church and to the State.

But being a man of fervent piety he loved to preach Christ and him crucified, which he did with plainness and fervency and power, rightly dividing the word of truth. And God so owned his ministry, that three precious revivals of religion were enjoyed by the churches to which he ministered;

and there is no reason to doubt that his abundant labors in the last tended to shorten his life.

His end, we learn, was perfect peace. Confidently relying on the promises of the Lord Jesus, he entered and passed through the dark valley, fearing no evil, the Rod and Staff of his Shepherd comforting him.

A Committee, consisting of Rev. B. M. Smith, D. D., Rev. A. W. Miller, and Elder L. R. Railey, were appointed to bring in a Minute expressive of the Synod in view of the death of the Rev. James H. Thornwell, D. D.

At the suggestion of the Moderator, the Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D., led the Synod in prayer, with reference to the unusual number of deaths of members of Synod during the last year.

The unfinished business of yesterday was taken up, being the Report of the Committee on the interruption of worship in our churches. The Report was received and adopted, and is as follows :

The noble behavior of our people in this time of trial is a subject for thanksgiving, and ought to meet with no discouragement on the part of the church or any of its judicatories. Even when it extends to the forsaking of pulpits by ministers, and the giving up of churches for high military ends, it is a part of a system of sacrifices which our country undoubtedly demands, and for which our church, so far as she is faithful, will not be allowed to suffer.

Nevertheless we sympathize deeply with those congregations that are thus called upon to make sacrifices, and enjoin it upon their sessions and private members, by social meetings and by public assemblages for prayer, to keep up the habits of the church, and to maintain the spirit of devotion.

We think it high time also to enquire whether the more regular worship of God may not in more cases be restored. Ministers, by a proper self denial in respect to the freedom of their expressions, without a trace of servility or shade of even imagined disloyalty to their country, may find it safe to go back to their posts ; and elders, in a still greater number of cases, may find it possible to furnish some other building for a hospital or for military stores than their church, and thus by a little exertion, worship may be restored in a number of neighborhoods.

The Synod enjoins it upon our Presbyteries to have a vigilant regard for our interests in this respect ; and as one great object of our meetings is to give efficiency and permanent arrangement to the preaching of the gospel all over the State, the churches are entreated not to allow this war unnecessarily to interrupt their services, and at a time of peculiar temptations, not to allow the ministrations of the gospel unnecessarily to disappear from the land.

The Committee appointed to report on the duty of the church with reference to the Chaplains for the hospitals and the army, reported, and the Report was accepted. A motion was made to adopt, and pending the discussion, the subject was, on motion, laid on the table, and made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock.

It was also resolved that the hour for recess to-morrow shall be 12 o'clock, M.

Synod took a recess till 7½ o'clock, P. M.

After recess Synod met.

The Report of the Committee on the Records of Montgomery Presbytery was taken up, and the Records were approved as far as written, with the exception that on page 323 it appears the Presbytery dispensed with requiring a Latin Exegesis from a candidate for Licensure, or any similar exercise.

The Rev. Dr. McFarland presented his report as Treasurer of Synod, which, with the Treasurer's Book and vouchers, was referred to an auditing Committee, consisting of Elders E. Phleger and J. B. I. Logan.

A communication was received from Rev. J. G. Shepperson, assigning reasons for his absence from the last and present meeting of Synod, which were sustained.

The Committee on the State of the Church presented their Report, during the reading of which Synod adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, Oct. 4th, 9 o'clock.

Synod met and was opened with prayer.

After half an hour spent in devotional service, the roll was called, and the Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The Rev. Mr. Granbury, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and Rev. J. A. Latane, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Rev. T. L. Preston appeared and gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness.

The order of the day for 9½ o'clock, being the report of the Committee on the duty of the church in regard to Chaplains for the hospitals and the army, was taken up and read. The Rev. Mr. Granbury, being a Chaplain in the army, having been invited, addressed the Synod on the subject.

After farther discussion, and the time of recess having arrived, it was resolved to omit public worship this morning, and proceed with the discussion. While the discussion was still pending, Synod resolved to take a recess till 4 o'clock, P. M. The services were closed with singing, reading the Scriptures and prayer.

After recess Synod met.

The Committee on Union Theological Seminary reported, and their report was accepted and adopted, and is as follows: [See Appendix.]

The Committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary, find nothing therein calling for the special attention of the Synod, unless it be the fact that about \$10,000 of subscriptions to the endowment remain yet uncollected. This certainly should be attended to by the Directors.

Resolved, That M. D. Hoge, D. D. and J. B. Ramsey, D. D. and Mr. C. C. Read, whose term of office as Directors has expired, be re-appointed.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, reported that they have examined the same and find them correct.

In order to make up the deficiency reported by the Treasurer, and to prevent any deficiency in future, the Committee recommend that Winchester Presbytery be assessed \$15, and that \$18 be added to the assessments upon the other Presbyteries, as follows :

Add to Lexington Presbytery	\$2,	and make the assessment	-	\$30
" East Hanover "	2	" " "	-	30
" Greenbrier "	2	" " "	-	15
" Montgomery "	2	" " "	-	15
" Roanoke "	5	" " "	-	20
" West Hanover "	5	" " "	-	20

This reported was adopted.

The Committee from the Presbytery of Lexington, appointed to prepare a Minute respecting the death of a member of Synod within their bounds, reported the following, which was adopted :

The Committee appointed to prepare a Minute in reference to the death of Rev. John M. Goul, a member of this Synod, present the following report :

Mr. Goul made a profession of faith at an early age. He was a graduate of Washington College, in this State, where he made good attainments in literature and the sciences ; and passed through the course of Theological study at the Union Theological Seminary, preparatory to the work of the ministry. He was licensed to preach as a probationer for the Gospel ministry by the Lexington Presbytery, and not long before his death was ordained by the same Presbytery as an evangelist. He preached with acceptance in many of our churches, and was for some time stated supply of Providence church in Louisa county, where he made many warm friends, and preached and labored with fidelity and success.

At the beginning of the war he entered the army as a member of the Rock-bridge Artillery, the famous Pendleton Battery, where he proved himself a brave and efficient soldier, and yet remembering that he was an officer under the Captain of our salvation, he evermore sought by word, by example, and by preaching, as opportunity offered, to enlist soldiers for the army of King Emmanuel. As soon as the term of his enlistment expired, he sought a commission as missionary to the army, in which service he had been engaged but one month, when his labors were interrupted by the painful, as it proved fatal illness of a young and dearly loved brother, by whose bedside he watched with the tenderest assiduity, and whose remains he removed to his birth place for burial, intending, when this sad office of friendship was finished, to return immediately to his labors in the army. But God ordered otherwise. Scarcely had he buried his brother, when he was seized with a malignant attack of typhoid fever, which in a few days removed him from the land of the living. He died on the 9th of August, 1862, and then another name (and how many they have been in one brief year) was stricken from our roll, and another removed from the church on earth to join, as we confidently believe, that ever increasing multitude of "the spirits of the just made perfect" in heaven.

His wise sense of propriety, his social talents, his freedom from everything like sanctimonious cant, gave him a strong hold upon the affections of

all, especially the young, and opened before him a cheering promise of usefulness, while his habitual cheerfulness ever tended to dispel that common delusion of the world that religion is a gloomy and sorrowful thing; and to show that it is not intended to dry up the joy of our youth, but only to chasten and purify and make it perennial.

We are thus called to trust God's cause more entirely to him, and not to trust in man whose breath is in his nostrils. We are admonished, brethren, to be more faithful, for the night soon cometh; and we are taught to pray more earnestly that God would send more laborers into his harvest, which is plenteous; while from the thin ranks of the laborers God is calling many away, leaving their fields to be garnered by others, or to perish unreaped.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. M. SEE, *Chairman*.

Rev. M. W. Woodworth, of the Presbytery of Winchester, appeared and gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness.

The unfinished business of the morning was taken up, being the report of the Committee on the duty of the church to the hospitals and the army, and the resolutions were taken up *seriatim* and adopted, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That the Synod recommend to all under their care the establishment of Wayside Houses of Rest, for the temporary relief of sick and wounded soldiers *in transitu*; with the express understanding, that those who have the management of those resting places, be enjoined to prevent any abuse of these provisions on the part of soldiers, who might be disposed to linger longer than the necessities of their condition absolutely demanded.

It is further earnestly recommended that those who have charge of these houses of refreshment, obtain, when practicable, the co-operation of Provost Marshals in aiding these passing soldiers, and in preventing undue loitering. And it is recommended to Pastors and to the churches within whose limits these houses of rest may be established, acting through their Deacons, or such other agency as may be deemed expedient, to attend to the supply of religious reading in each of them.

2. *Resolved*, That Rev. Moses D. Hore, D. D., be appointed a Commissioner on the part of this Synod, in reference to obtaining Chaplains, especially for regiments raised within the bounds of this Synod; and that it shall be his duty to ascertain what regiments are unsupplied with Chaplains; to hold correspondence with the Colonels of these regiments in regard to filling such vacancies; to receive the suggestions of the Committee of Domestic Missions of the Presbyteries, as to men suitable for Chaplains; and to aid in obtaining commissions for those thus recommended.

3. *Resolved*, That Synod recommend to all their Ministers, who may be able to labor as Chaplains in the army, seriously to consider whether it is not their duty to seek such a position; and to all our church officers and members seriously to consider whether they have done, or are doing all they ought to do for the religious instruction and warning of the soldiers in the army, and in the hospitals.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Minute expressive of the sense of this Synod in regard to the death of the Rev. James H.

Thornwell, D. D., of the Synod of South Carolina, reported the following, which was unanimously adopted :

The Synod of Virginia, participating in the great bereavement which the Presbyterian church of the Confederate States has suffered in the death of Rev. James H. Thornwell, D. D., places on record this expression of its profound sense of the heavy calamity which it has pleased the All-wise Head of the church thus to inflict.

We mourn the loss of one, on whom God had most eminently bestowed the gifts and graces, so highly essential to the right performance of ministerial functions, of the highest importance in disseminating the great principles of the Gospel of the grace of God.

To rare endowments of natural intellect he added a vast fund of knowledge, not only of the doctrines which distinguish the Christian scheme, but also of all those departments of learning by which the acquisition, defence and inculcation of those doctrines are so effectually aided. He was "mighty in the Scriptures," fully meet for sustaining, by argument, their divine authority, and peculiarly able in expounding, illustrating and enforcing their truths. The loved theme of his preaching was emphatically Jesus Christ and Him crucified; and the whole scope of his theological teaching was to humble human pride and exalt the God of all grace, as revealed to man in the Gospel of His Son.

But not only as the preacher and teacher of Theology did he command the admiration of the church. He was as fully conversant with the facts of Church History, and the great principles of Church Government as with the peculiar doctrines of salvation. On conviction for which he was ever prepared to give the most conclusive reasons, he was a Presbyterian. Next to glorying in the Cross, he gloried in the Calvinism of the Cross, and in that system of church order which he believed alone fully consistent with the doctrinal standards of the Westminster Assembly. If in some of the views he so forcibly presented, any of his brethren could not conscientiously agree, they were constrained to regret a difference from one who urged his opinions with such ability and in a spirit of such Christian meekness and love.

In the courtesy of the Christian gentleman, the genial cordiality of the affectionate friend, and the guilelessness and simplicity of the humble disciple of Jesus, he truly adorned in his life, that Gospel he proclaimed with such eloquence, tenderness and power.

Thus, though "his bodily presence was weak," his mental and moral qualities combined to give him an efficiency in the pulpit, the hall of Theology and the church, which has seldom been equalled, and never exceeded by any one man in our ecclesiastical connection. The recollection of his brief, but brilliant career fills our hearts with mingled emotions of gratitude and grief; the one, that God bestowed on our church such a gift; the other that He has taken him from us at this crisis. Though bowed in sorrow we would fain submissively acknowledge His hand and invoke His grace, enabling us to say, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away—blessed be the name of the Lord."

It was ordered that the time for contributions by Roanoke Presbytery be the same as that of West Hanover, and for Winchester Presbytery the same as Greenbrier; and that the word "committee" be substituted for Board in the printed scheme.

The unfinished business of yesterday, the reading of the report on

the State of the Church, was resumed and concluded, and the report was accepted. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Synod be tendered to Rev. A. W. Miller for the diligence, research and ability displayed in the fulfillment of the order of Synod, in his report on the State of the Church.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported that no business had been put into their hands, except the consideration of the subject of fixing a regular time for the meetings of Synod; in reference to which they report, that the fixing of such time is inexpedient now. The report was accepted and adopted.

The Judicial Committee reported that no business had been put into their hands, and they were accordingly discharged.

Synod took recess till 7½ o'clock.

After recess Synod met.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly reported calling the attention of the Synod to resolutions No. 1 and 2, on page 15, in reference to observing the last Thursday of February as a day of special prayer for our youth, &c. Also recommending to our churches, on the last Sabbath in every month, to offer special prayer for our baptized young men in the army. The report was received and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had excused for absence from the last two meetings of Synod Rev. S. R. Houston and Rev. P. M. Custer.

For absence from the last meeting: Rev. Messrs. Enoch Thomas, Wm. G. Campbell, J. M. Rice, John Miller, D. C. Irwin, and A. Hart.

For absence from the present meeting: After Thursday morning, Rev. Wm. Pinkerton.

After the session of Friday, Rev. Charles Beach, Wm. S. White, D. D., Geo. W. White, S. R. Houston, Samuel Brown, Thomas W. White and Luther Emerson. Elders A. J. Bondurant, Wm. N. McCutchan, Littlebury Moon and Harvey Bear.

After Saturday morning, Rev. P. M. Custer, H. B. Rose, N. W. Calkoon and R. P. Kennedy.

After Saturday afternoon, Elder William Van Lear.

The report was accepted and approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod be tendered to the various churches which have offered their houses of worship to the use of the Synod; and likewise to the citizens of Staunton for their kindness and hospitality.

The committee appointed to prepare the Narrative on the State of Religion within the bounds of the Synod, made their report, which was accepted and adopted, and ordered to be published in the Central Presbyterian, and in the Appendix to the Minutes of Synod.

The Rev. Thomas E. Peck was appointed to preach the synodical sermon at the next meeting of Synod, on the subject of the relation between the church and the State; and the Rev. William H. Foote, D. D., his aliernate.

A communication was made to Synod to the effect that certain legacies had been bequeathed to the *Boards* of ———, by ———, and that the legal representative of said testator expressed a readiness to pay over said bequests to the *Committees* of ———. But in view of legal and other difficulties in the case, Synod is not prepared to give a deliverance in the premises. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That Rev. Francis McFarland, D. D., and S. McD. Reid, Esq., be a committee to make further investigation, and to act in the premises on their best judgment.

The committee appointed to procure an amendment to the charter of the Union Theological Seminary were not prepared to report, and, on motion, were continued and ordered to report at the next meeting.

Resolved, That the standing rule, requiring the appointment of a Committee on the State of the Church, be rescinded.

The minutes of this days sessions were read and approved.

Synod adjourned to meet in Salem on the third Wednesday of October, 1863, at 7 o'clock P. M., and was closed with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

W. J. HOGE, *Moderator*.

J. D. DUDLEY, }
D. C. IRWIN. } *Clerks*.

FRANCIS MCFARLAND, *Stated Clerk*.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

In taking a review of the year that has passed since the last meeting of the Synod of Virginia, it is our first duty and our happy privilege to render to our covenant-keeping God the tribute of our humble, sincere and hearty thanks.

The period that has just elapsed is one of no ordinary moment. It is a period that is destined to be memorable in the annals both of church and State ; a period that has been encompassed by the darkness and the mists of death ; and yet a period signalized by the shock of revolution, and the glory of heroic and victorious resistance. The fearful struggle in which during this time our noblest energies have been tasked to the uttermost, has been no heated discussion of the forum, or the deliberative floor, but has been conducted over many an agonizing battle-field, "with the noise of the warrior, and with garments rolled in blood." At first God did not seem to smile upon our defensive operations. Disaster followed hard upon disaster, until the faith of some were ready to fail. But the Lord put it into the heart of the Chief Executive officer of the nation to call upon the Christians of the entire country to humble themselves, with fasting, acknowledgment and prayer.

The appointed day was in July and extensively observed ; and like a column of sweet smelling incense, the united supplications of the whole people went up before the God of battles, and was graciously accepted through the intercessions of our great High Priest. Almost before the weeping worshippers had risen from their knees, the answer came ; and gloriously did God at length avenge his own elect, who now continued to cry unto him day and night, and to present to him the sacrifice of broken hearts. Our prayers were heard ; we were wonderfully delivered out of the hands of our enemies ; and now followed a solemn but most delightful season of thanksgiving a praise. Again our God-fearing President called upon the suffering church of Christ, throughout the Confederacy, to assemble in their various places of worship, no longer for purposes of humiliation, but for the sweeter offices of adoring gratitude and joy. The holy time was sacredly observed, and thousands of Christ's saints that day were refreshed and exalted in their King. Since the date of this proclamation, a new series of victories has accompanied the march of our armies, and as a church we would again "call upon our souls to bless the Lord, and all that is within us to magnify His holy name."

The contrast presented between the position of the Synod to-day and the position of the same body a year ago, is broad and striking. We were then emerging from the agitating scenes which attended the separation of Southern Presbyteries from the Presbyteries of the North. We are now, by the good hand of our God upon us, auspiciously united with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in the Confederate States of America, and already—as we would fain trust and pray—like him who in the apocalyptic vision, rode upon the white horse, go forth "conquering and to conquer."

The year that has just closed has been pre-eminently a year of conflict and a year of trial. It has been, in the case of most of our churches, a season of probation, and it is our now unwavering conviction, that while many false professors have been discovered, and the love of many has waxed cold, the souls of those whom Jesus Christ has loved and purchased, have been "purified as gold that is tried in the fire,"

The attendance on the ordinances of religion has, in many places, been necessarily interrupted; but on the whole the indications of a desire and determination on the part of God's people to keep up the ministrations of the sanctuary, have been cheering. It has been the painful lot of several of our ministers to labor within the lines of the enemy. Others, under similar circumstances, have felt it to be their duty to seek other and more inviting fields.

The attendance on the weekly prayer-meeting has been seriously, though not perhaps—in the majority of our churches—injurious diminished. The war has taken off most of the male members of our congregations, but others have come in to take the places, and the attendance of females has been increased.

Due regard has been paid by pastors and sessions to the importance of maintaining Catechetical instruction, the Bible-class and the Sabbath school.

The contributions of the past year to benevolent objects have of course been curtailed; but the spirit of Christian liberality, especially in behalf of our soldiers, has been greatly awakened and put in exercise. The devotion of our people to the army and the cause of the country, has perhaps no parallel in history; and these emotions of patriotic ardor and tender natural affection, have in innumerable instances sought a common channel with the sweetest and most precious outpourings of the Christian heart.

In some places union weekly prayer meetings have been held, and often with the most gratifying results. A spirit of earnest supplication has pervaded many communities in which our church is strongly represented, and prayers have ascended to God from bursting hearts that he would remember the desolations of Zion. If it is to be feared, from the narratives of our Presbyteries, that petitions for temporal blessings have far exceeded in number and in fervency those for spiritual mercies; at the same time it is not to be denied that there has been and is still discernable a general and most unusual sense of dependence upon God, and a constant recognition of the favor and the chastisements of a divine and superintending Providence. The influence of the war upon us has been profound and complex. While it has drawn off the bulk of our fighting population from their homes, their avocations and the sanctuary of God, it has thrown upon our watchful care great numbers of those who have been driven before the hurtful sword of the invader. This circumstance has modified if it has not increased our opportunities, and has added to our obligations and responsibilities in the sight of God.

Much of the attention of the church has been directed to the work of Chaplaincies in the hospitals, the camp, and in the field, and the blessing of our heavenly Father has rested abundantly on these labors of self-sacrifice and love. At the same time there has been nothing like a wide-spread revival of religion, and there has been sad room for improvement in the frequency and character of the efforts that have been put forth by the servants of the Lord Jesus to bring about this glorious result.

In the retrospect of the year which has thus drawn to a close, there is much to cause the heart of the believer to "bow the head as a bullrush" and weep amidst the willows and the streams of Babel. There are symptoms in

some quarters of declension and decay. There is not to be seen "as in the days of old," "the years of the right hand of the Most High," the spectacle of those who "fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows." The ways of Zion have often seemed to languish; apostacies have been frequent; and the providence no less than the word of God has proved "a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

But if the war has brought with it its peculiar sufferings and temptations, so also has it conferred its peculiar blessings.

Blessed be God, we have much to encourage as well as to depress us, in this our annual review. He has, in the evolution of his inscrutable and holy plan, opened to us many "wide doors and effectual," which before were barred at our approach; and even in this time of rebuke and tribulation has "commanded his loving kindness in the day-time, and in the night his song has been with us."

The past year has been a year not only of sadness and trial, but of bereavement. The number of reverend and dearly beloved ministers of the word who have been translated from the church on earth to the church in heaven, is absolutely without example. "These all died in faith," and in the consolations and triumphs of the Holy Ghost.

We are moreover called to mourn the decease of an unusual number of theological students, matriculates of our own cherished institution in Prince Edward, and it is the wish of Synod in this public manner to give perpetuation to their names. The following is the blood-stained roll:

Samuel M. Lightner, who was wounded in the first battle of Manassas, but recovered and re-entered the army, where he died of a fever.

J. W. McCown, who fell asleep at home, never having connected himself with the army.

Hugh A. White, who was smitten on the high places of the field in the second battle of Manassas.

James M. Lynch, who had nearly completed his theological course, and fell a victim to disease contracted in the camp.

And Edgar W. Carrington, whose promising career was cut short at the battle of Seven Pines. "Blessed be the dead which die in the Lord, for they shall rest from their labors and their works shall follow them."

In view of our grievous shortcomings in the past, we would in humble reliance on his mercy, and the virtue of his obedience and dying blood, roll the heavy burden of our guilt and sorrow on the breast of Jesus, the friend of sinners and the great Head of the church; and "forgetting the things which are behind," would press forward with redoubled activity and zeal, in anticipation of the day when the sacramental host of the Redeemed now militant shall return triumphant, "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners."

With renewed expressions of our gratitude to God for his unnumbered and unmerited mercies, we would once more "set up our Ebenezer, and say hitherto hath the Lord helped us." And "now unto the King Eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever, Amen."

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DIRECTORS OF UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY TO
THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

The Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary, herewith present their annual report, as follows, viz :

I. STUDENTS.—The regular exercises of the Institution have been attended to for the larger part of the last Session with less interruption than might have been expected from the distracted condition of the country ; and all the departments of study have been regularly pursued, so far as circumstances have allowed. The following eleven new students have been received during the year, viz :

Parke Poindexter Flournoy, a member of the First Presbyterian church, Richmond, Va., and graduate of Hampden Sidney College.

Isaac Paricake Heiskill, member of Romney church, Presbytery of Winchester, and student of the University of Virginia.

John K. Hisner, member of College church, Presbytery of West Hanover, and student of University of Virginia.

Jonah W. Lupton, member of First Presbyterian church, Alleghany city, Pa., and student of Western Theological Seminary of the United States.

Edward Hummet Barnet, member of the Presbyterian church, Christiansburg, Va., in Montgomery Presbytery and graduate of Hampden Sidney College.

Samuel Valentine McCorkle, member of the Independent Presbyterian church in Greenville, East Tennessee, and graduate of Princeton College.

Nathan Backman, member of the Presbyterian church in Kingport, East Tennessee, connected with the United Synod, graduate of Emory and Henry College, and student of Union Theological Seminary in New York city.

David Comfort, member of the Village church in Roanoke Presbytery, graduate of Hampden Sidney College, and student of Princeton Theological Seminary.

Tazewell M. McCorkle, member of the First Presbyterian church, Lynchburg, Va., and student of H. S. College.

Halbut Green Hill, member and elder of the Presbyterian church in Clarksville, Va., and graduate of H. S. College.

Brice Benton Blair, member of the Presbyterian church in Shippensburg, Pa., graduate of Jefferson College, Pa., and student of Princeton Seminary.

Eleven of the old students returned, making the whole number in attendance during the year twenty-two, of these however only four were present at the close of the session, the remainder having left the Seminary in February and March, under the urgent call of the government for more troops, or since that for reasons growing out of the state of the country, and are nearly all now in the army.

Certificates of having completed the full course of study were given to C. J. Armistead, T. W. Gilmer and Jas. M. Whrey, and also to G. H. Gilmer, Henry Gilmore and Wm. S. Lacy, with the exception of a small portion at the end of the term, when they were called to the service of their country in the army.

II. LIBRARY.—Forty-one volumes have been added to the Library, all, except one, purchased at the sale of a private library, making the whole No. of volumes now 5,059.

III. FACULTY.—This is the same as reported last year

1. Rev. Samuel B. Wilson, D. D., Professor of Pastoral Theology, Moral Science, and Evidences of Christianity.
2. Rev. Robert L. Dabney, D. D., Professor of Systematic and Polemic Theology, and Sacred Rhetoric.
3. Rev. Benjamin M. Smith, D. D., Professor of Oriental and Biblical Criticism.
4. Rev. Thomas E. Peck, Professor of Church History and Government.

IV. THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, appointed by the Synod of Virginia.

Ministers.

Wm. S. White, D. D.,
 Samuel D. Stuart,
 William Brown, D. D.,
 Jas. H. Fitzgerald,
 Jas. H. Leps,
 M. D. Hoge, D. D.,
 Jas. B. Ramsey, D. D.

Ruling Elders.

A. G. M'Ilwaine,
 E. Phleger,
 C. C. Read.

APPOINTED BY THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Ministers.

Drury Lacy, D. D.,
 J. P. McPherson,
 Thomas W. Faucette,
 Geo. M. Gibbs,
 S. A. Stauffer,
 S. C. Pharr,
 F. N. Whaley,
 W. W. Pharr.

Ruling Elders.

E. Nye Hutchinson, M. D.,
 N. M. Pharr, M. D.,
 Jesse H. Lindsay,
 R. V. Watkins.

APPOINTED BY THE PRESBYTERY OF WINCHESTER.

Wm. H. Foote, D. D.

R. B. Sherrard.

THE OFFICERS OF THE BOARD ARE:

President.—Rev. Drury Lacy, D. D.

1st Vice President.—Rev. Jas. B. Ramsey,

2d Vice President.—Rev. Wm. H. Foote, D. D.

Secretary.—C. C. Read, Esq.

Treasurer.—F. N. Watkins, Esq., of Farmville.

V. THE FUNDS.—The whole investments of funds for direct sustentation and scholarship, are as follows, viz:

Total investments as per Treasurer's report of last year, the particular nature of which have not been given in report of this year, but are presumed to be unchanged,

Added during the last year,

\$104,700 00
 2,000 00

\$106,700 00.

This amount is subject to the following deductions, in order to show the amount available for sustentation, viz:

For defraying director's expenses,	-	-	-	-	29	10
For Rice Monument Fund,	-	-	-	-	79	58
For Library Fund,	-	-	-	-	532	87
For West Hanover scholarship,	-	-	-	-	944	57
For Lacy	"	-	-	-	584	54
For Ladies	"	-	-	-	2,128	05
For Devereaux	"	-	-	-	25	00
For Winchester Presbytery scholarship,	-	-	-	-	440	33
For Lexington	"	-	-	-	77	50
For Elder's	"	-	-	-	200	00
For Physician's	"	-	-	-	25	00
Deduct further the Winchester scholarship,	-	-	-	-	2,500	00
					<u>\$7,566</u>	<u>54</u>
Leaving investments for direct sustentation,	-	-	-	-	99,133	46
Add cash in estimated notes and bonds,	-	-	-	-	2,901	54
					<u>\$102,035</u>	<u>00</u>

The services of the agent employed by the Board for several years to complete the endowment, have been discontinued during the past year, owing to the state of the country. There is still a large amount of unpaid subscriptions, not less than \$10,000.

All which is respectfully,
By order of the Board,

CLEM'T C. REED, *Secretary.*

May 13th, 1862.

DOCKET OF BUSINESS FOR 1863.

- Moderator and two Clerks to be elected.
- Printed Minutes to be distributed.
- Standing Committees to be appointed by the Moderator.
- On Leave of Absence.
- On Bills and Overtures.
- A Judicial Committee.
- On Union Theological Seminary. They nominate Directors. Term of service of Dr. Brown, Mr. Fitzgerald and M. Phleger now expires.
- On the Minutes of the General Assembly.
- On the Narrative of the State of Religion.
- On Devotional Services.
- Committees to review Presbyterial Records.
- Report of the Directors of Union Theological Seminary, to be read and committed.
- Presbyterial Narratives on the State of Religion, to be read and referred.
- Statistical Reports from Presbyteries, to be presented and read.
- The Permanent Committee on Ministerial Support to report.
- Synodical sermon to be preached by Rev. Thos. E. Peck ; Rev. Wm. H. Foote, D. D., his alternate.
- A Preacher and subject for a Synodical sermon next year to be appointed.
- Time and place for the next meeting of Synod.
- A Board of Electors to be appointed for Union Theological Seminary.
- Presbyteries to report their diligence in Systematic Benevolence.
- Committee to procure an amendment to the charter of Union Theological Seminary to report.



CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE CHURCHES OF

To the object of the Committee of

EDUCATION,

DOMESTIC MISSIONS,

FOREIGN MISSIONS,

PUBLICATIONS,

To be made in the month of

Lexington.

June,

September,

December,

March,

*Greenbrier and
Winchester.*

August,

November,

February,

May,

Montgomery.

September,

December,

March,

June,

*West Hanover and
Roanoke.*

November,

February,

May,

August,

East Hanover.

December,

March,

June,

Sep. or Oct.

